

FCC Commissioners
The Federal Communications Commission RE: Docket 04-435
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Commissioners ,

I am writing to voice my concerns about the FCC's proposal to relax the restrictions on the use of cell phones on airplanes in flight.

As a flight attendant for a major carrier flying 80-100 hours a month, I see daily how passengers put their own personal "business" on phones above the safety of other passengers or even themselves. The priorities of the FCC are dangerously misplaced if today's lawmakers consider an environment of convenience more important than safety. At least once a day, I have to repeatedly instruct a passenger to turn off their phone for the FAA required safety demonstration after 2 or more announcements made over the PA system. Passengers on commercial airliners are already pushing the limits of the law regardless of what FCC has in place now. I have been told by several passengers the past few months, "You won't be able to tell me to turn my phone off for very much longer. I can talk all I want." The aircraft environment now affords flight crews very little leverage. We have seen over the last several years how passenger misconduct has increasingly grown as an issue on flights. Passengers on aircraft are getting a wrong sense of entitlement and dangerously confusing their priorities of convenience of chatting with who is on the other end of the line over the safety of the rest of the passengers as a whole. The system works as it is.

In addition, there is no hard evidence that cell phone use doesn't interfere with navigational instruments. The introduction of cell phone use in the cabin will not only increase tension among passengers, it will compromise flight attendants' ability to maintain order in an emergency. Cell phone use could also enable terrorists to coordinate a plan of action more effectively.

Please leave the current rules in effect.

Sincerely,

Mary Frances Knod
920 West George
#3
Chicago, Illinois 60657

cc:

Senator Dick Durbin
Senator Barack Obama
Representative Rahm Emanuel